

## **News Release**

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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## IDWR SETS PUBLIC MEETING IN HAGERMAN TO DISCUSS NEW WATER MANAGEMENT MODEL

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho - Nov. 21, 2003 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

State water managers are getting ready to develop a computer modeling program that can help regulate water use below the Snake River canyon rim in the Magic Valley but first they want to know what area water users think of the idea, the Idaho Department of Water Resources said today.

A special public meeting has been set for the evening of December 1 in Hagerman to outline the project. IDWR hopes to use the meeting to get feedback from Thousand Springs area surface, spring and ground water users plus other stakeholders and the public. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., at the American Legion Hall, 281 N. State St. in Hagerman.

Conjunctive administration of springs, streams, and ground water north of the Snake River between Twin Falls and King Hill, Idaho are presently a focus of water distribution and management challenges. The new model is designed to be an additional element in addressing the challenges of conjunctive management efforts, IDWR officials said.

"We have already put a lot of effort into the development of a ground water model for the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. Two additional steps in addressing this challenge are the construction of a surface water model to examine flows below the canyon rim, and development of additional interfaces between this technical information and the public," said Dr. Sudhir Goyal, who heads the model development project.

The meeting is open to the public. It is being held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act. If you need special assistance to attend or participate in the meeting, please contact Dr. Goyal, (208) 327-7980 in advance so arrangements can be made.